

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 824

Introduced by Assembly Member Saldana

February 22, 2007

An act to amend Section 2781 of the Penal Code, relating to inmate work camps.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 824, as introduced, Saldana. Inmate work camps.

Existing law authorizes prisoners to be made available for certain employment, including fire fighting camps, as specified.

This bill would establish additional criteria to be met in regard to eligibility of prisoners for that purpose, and the administration of those camps. This bill would provide that these provisions do not apply to specified camps. However, those camps would be given priority of wards categorized, as specified.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 2781 of the Penal Code is amended to
- 2 read:
- 3 2781. (a) (1) ~~The Director~~ *Secretary of the Department of*
- 4 *Corrections and Rehabilitation* shall determine which prisoners
- 5 shall be eligible for employment under Section 2780, and shall
- 6 establish and modify lists of prisoners eligible for ~~such that~~
- 7 employment. Upon the requisition of an agency mentioned in
- 8 Section 2780, the ~~Director of Corrections~~ *secretary* may send to

1 the place and at the time designated the number of prisoners
2 requisitioned or ~~such~~ *that* number thereof as have been determined
3 to be eligible for ~~such~~ *that* employment and are available.

4 The ~~director~~ *secretary* may return to prison any prisoner
5 transferred to camp pursuant to this section, when the need for
6 ~~such~~ *that* prisoner's labor has ceased or when the prisoner is guilty
7 of any violation of the rules and regulations of the prison or camp.

8 (b) (1) *No inmate shall be eligible to work at a fire fighting*
9 *camp who has been arrested for rape, or who has a conviction for*
10 *any sex offense, felony battery of a peace officer or firefighter, or*
11 *stalking. However, inmates convicted of indecent exposure*
12 *resulting from urinating in a public place may still work in a fire*
13 *fighting camp.*

14 (2) *No inmate shall be eligible to work at a fire fighting camp*
15 *who does not meet the grooming standards established for*
16 *Department of Forestry and Fire Protection and Los Angeles*
17 *County firefighters.*

18 (3) *Any inmate who is found under the influence or in possession*
19 *of any drug or alcohol while housed in a fire fighting camp, or*
20 *who has a positive urine test for drugs or alcohol while housed in*
21 *a fire fighting camp or working on a fire grade project shall lose*
22 *work credits, as follows:*

23 (A) *Inmates sentenced under two-for-one work credits shall lose*
24 *their work credits for a period of 12 months. After 12 months, the*
25 *inmate may request that the Department of Corrections and*
26 *Rehabilitation restore his or her loss of credits if he or she has*
27 *been disciplinary free for those 12 months. A second violation of*
28 *these provisions shall result in removal from fire fighting camp*
29 *for the duration of incarceration.*

30 (B) *Inmates sentenced under fewer than 80 percent or 85 percent*
31 *work credits shall be removed from camp for violating this section.*
32 *Inmates shall then have to appear before the prison classification*
33 *system for placement into another fire fighting camp. A second*
34 *violation of these provisions shall result in being removed from*
35 *fire fighting camp for the duration of incarceration.*

36 (c) *Fire fighting camps shall be given first priority for all Level*
37 *I & II housing within the department and given priority for low-risk*
38 *inmates.*

1 (d) *Inmates assigned to fire fighting camps shall work at least*
2 *eight-hour days and shall work during the weekend, if needed by*
3 *the state, except for state and federal holidays.*

4 (e) *Inmates assigned to fire fighting camps shall not be housed*
5 *within 65 miles of their former residence prior to incarceration.*

6 (f) *No staff assigned to any fire fighting camp whose job it is to*
7 *supervise inmates may have a felony conviction.*

8 SEC. 2. The provisions of this act shall not apply to the
9 Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation Division of Juvenile
10 Justice Camps at Pine Grove and Ventura. However, those camps
11 shall be given priority over all wards in categories three to seven,
12 inclusive.